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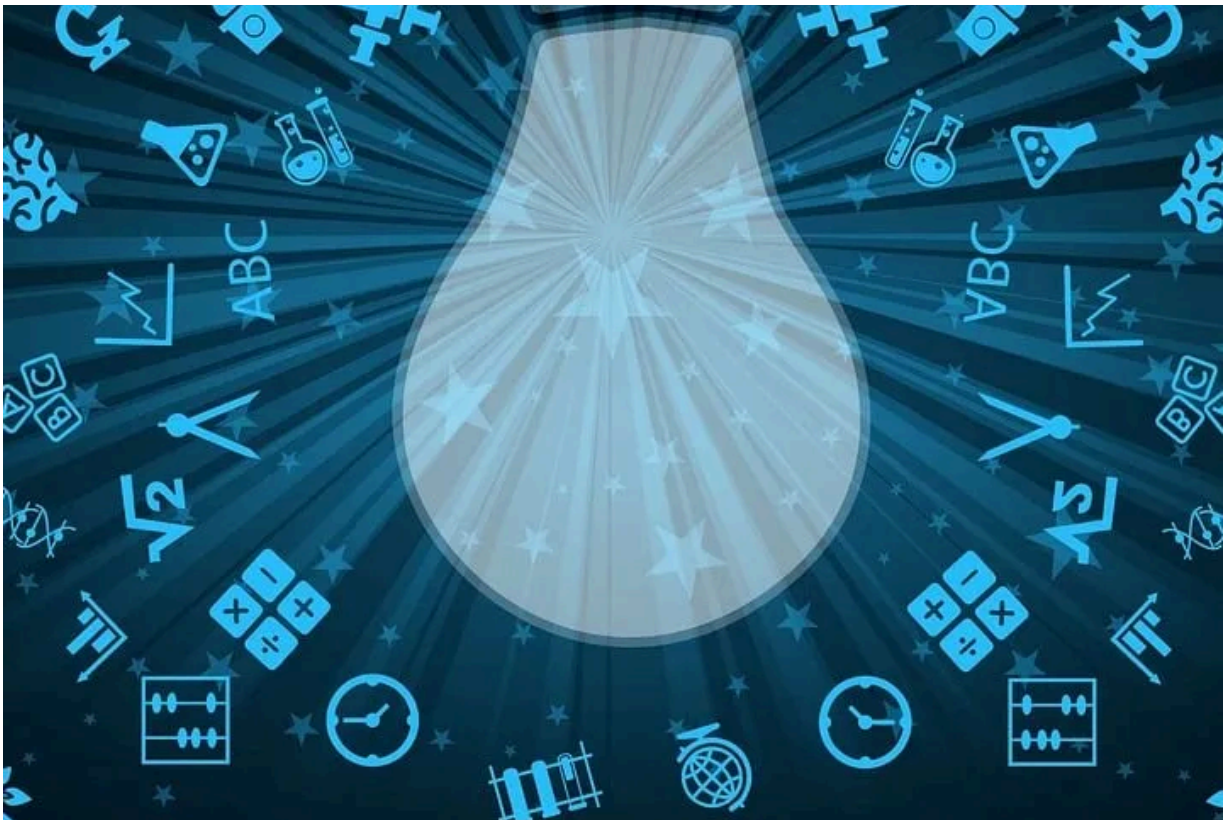
NEWS — DID YOU KNOW

Did You Know? Cultural Council

TARA HUGHES | STAFF WRITER

July 31, 2023 . 10:35 PM — 2 min read



An occasional column about town activities by Tara Hughes

July 31, 2023. Did you know that the town of Winchester has a Cu[illegible] Council which exists to give out grant money? The council is a gr[illegible] volunteers appointed by the Select Board which awards grant money

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provided yearly to Winchester through the Massachusetts Cultural Council to support the arts, humanities and interpretive sciences. It has been in existence for 42 years.

The Council grants money to local individuals and groups who have submitted a grant application and whose work would support the artistic and cultural life of the town. In 2023, the Council awarded $22,500, the largest total giving in its history, for 17 projects by 15 separate individuals and organizations.

Some of the grant-funded projects and events include the Utility Box Program, the Chinese New Year celebration (1/22/23), the Jenks Winter Saturday Concert Series (February and March 2023), Kids Art (Spring/Summer 2023 at the Winchester Public Library), Photoville (June through September) and Concerts on the Common (8/2023).

The Council is currently accepting applications for its new Micro-Grant Program ($50-$300). Applications are accepted year round on a rolling basis and subject to funding availability. Decisions are usually made within 4 weeks and funded projects must still benefit the public.

The Council has also started the Wedgemere Station Kiosk, a low-cost pilot project that may result in others being placed elsewhere in town. The kiosk is a video monitor in the window of the former coffee shop at Wedgemere Station which displays announcements and information about Winchester. Organizations and individuals are welcome to submit an electronic flier, non-commercial in nature, of general interest for posting on the video display. There is no charge for the display and fliers should be submitted to info@winchesterculturalcouncil.org.

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If you are interested in joining the Council, it is in need of new members for the coming year. The Council meets monthly, gives cultural grants annually (and micro-grants more often) and provides opportunities to enrich our town through the arts and culture. To apply, send a letter stating your interest to the Select Board at Town Hall.

To learn more go to www.winchesterculturalcouncil.org.

Tara Hughes is the president of Winchester News Group and a precinct 1 town meeting member.

Related

NEWS

Winchester School Committee candidates bring contrasting backgrounds to Thursday forum

Two candidates for Winchester's School Committee will face voters at a forum as the district navigates a new literacy curriculum, budget pressures and questions about student mental health. Heather von Mering and John Bellaire are competing for an open seat on the School Committee, which oversees a budget von

WILL DOWD | STAFF WRITER

March 4, 2026

NEWS

Rep. Michael Day helps House colleagues pass sweeping energy affordability bill

The following was submitted by the Office of Rep. Michael S. Day: Rep. Michael S. Day and his colleagues in the House of Representatives recently passed energy affordability legislation that would result in over $9 billion in savings for utility ratepayers over the next 10 y maintains critical

March 4, 2026

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NEWS

Winchester gun owners face new training rules starting April 2

Public safety data How Winchester compares on firearms licenses in comparable Massachusetts communities Active licenses as of Jan. 25, 2025 — Source: Massachusetts Criminal History Systems Board License to carry firearms Firearms identification card Winchester and Marblehead are the focus communities. Peers selected based on comparable population size, demographics and suburban

WILL DOWD | STAFF WRITER

March 4, 2026

NEWS

Sen. Jason Lewis, Mass. Senate strengthen fair housing protections for renters, buyers

The following was submitted by the Office of Sen. Jason Lewis: State Sen. Jason Lewis joined his colleagues in the Massachusetts Senate to pass legislation that protects residents from discrimination in the housing market as the Trump administration abandons its enforcement of the federal Fair Housing Act. Illegal discrimination continues

March 3, 2026

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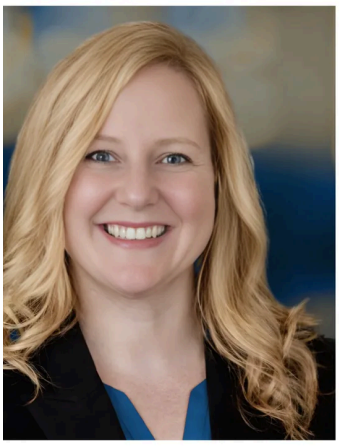

EVENTS

Celebrate Women's History Month with Girls Leading Change

The following was submitted by the Network for Social Justice: To mark Women's History Month and International Women's Day in 2026, the Network for Social Justice is collaborating with club leaders from Winchester High School and members of the Community Health team from La Colaborativa in Chelsea and

March 4, 2026

NEWS

Winchester School Committee candidates bring contrasting backgrounds to Thursday forum

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WILL DOWD | STAFF WRITER

March 4, 2026

FEATURES

'Chicago: Teen Edition' dances onto the Winchester High School stage

By Talia Ho | Correspondent Fame. Fortune. And all that jazz. This spring, Winchester High School presents "Chicago: Teen Edition," a bold musical that explores celebrity culture, media manipulation, and the cost of ambition. This iconic production is set in the 1920s. Performances will take place on March 13 and 14

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS

March 4, 2026

EVENTS

Ripley Chapel in Winchester presents 'Syldason: You Are Welcome Here'

The following was submitted by the Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church: On Friday, March 13, beginning at 7:30 p.m., live in-person and live streamed from the stunning Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church, Winchester, 21 Church St., join in with Syldason, a duo concert featuring Sylvie Zakarian,

March 4, 2026

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